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Editors' Comments

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EDITORS' COMMENTS

This issue of the *Journal* completes the first two years of its publication. It seems fitting, therefore, to recall the words of original co-editors Bill Losito and Joe Rogus. They stated that the primary objective of the journal was "providing intellectual leadership to and an inquiry-based understanding of Catholic schools during a period of critical transformation." They went on to write that by "disseminating scholarly reflection and research on Catholic schools, this publication can help reinforce a much needed collaboration and attitude of partnership" with others conducting inquiry about these schools.

We believe that the *Journal* has striven to meet these goals and that this issue is yet another manifestation of seeking those objectives enunciated by our founding co-editors.

The Focus Section of this issue addresses the financing of Catholic schools with articles by Richard Burke and Theodore J. Wallace.

Also included is "Internal Issues in Private Education," by Lourdes Sheehan, RSM, a paper presented at the private school conference held at the University of Dayton in November 1997. John Holmes and Mary Peter Traviss, OP, contributed responses to this piece.

In addition, Brother Jeffrey Gros writes on "The Catholic School and the Quest for Unity," while Carolyn Ridenour and a team of researchers report their findings of a study directed at how well 13 Marianist Catholic high schools live the mission and model the culture of the Marianist philosophy of education. Leona English discusses mentorship as it applies to Catholic school educators, and Jay Greene leads a threesome describing the results of a study utilizing the Texas poll in comparing levels of tolerance and political participation among individuals who attended public schools exclusively, private schools exclusively, and a combination of public and private schools.

The issue concludes with two regular features, the book review and review of research sections. *Learning from School Choice* by Peterson and Hassel is reviewed by Edwin McDermott, SJ, while a trio of reviewers discuss the controversial book *The Dying of the Light: The Disengagement of Colleges and Universities from Their Christian Churches*. Joseph O'Keefe, SJ, is joined by Regina Haney in reporting on Selected Programs for Improving Education (SPICE), co-sponsored by Boston College and the National Catholic Educational Association. SPICE aims to implement priorities for Catholic schools as outlined by the participants in the Catholic Schools for the 21st Century Congress held in 1991.

Thomas C. Hunt, Ronald J. Nuzzi, *Co-Editors*

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